Kansas History as Published in the Press

Kansas in 1860 was not as dry as people would have one believe, according to records of Federal Meteorologist S. D. Flora printed in the Topeka State Journal, January 15, 1944. Leavenworth and Manhattan had rain. Therefore the statement that “not a shower fell” for sixteen months is misleading. “Maybe it just ‘seemed that way’ to them,” wrote Mr. Flora.

Articles of historical interest to Kansans in Victor Murdock’s column in the Wichita (Evening) Eagle, include: “Ventures by Pioneers [in Allen County] in Feeding of Cattle Had Promise of Profit . . . Seventy Years Ago,” February 1, 1944; “Growth of Gun in the First Century of the Country’s History as It Was Seen in the Days of Wichita’s Youth,” February 2; “Evidence in Wichita in the First Days Here of Railroad Evolution,” February 3; “Providing Dining Room For Their Passengers Once Task of Railroads,” February 4; “Horse That Drew Overland Concord Into Interior Was a Herald To Communities Announcing the Coming of His Iron Competitor,” February 5; “Bringing Track Gauge of Initial Railroads To a Single Standard,” February 7; “Three Good Rifle Shots Fired From a Spencer by John Helms, Pioneer . . . in Southern Kansas in 1871,” February 8; “Fixation of the Gauge of the Railroad Track at Prevailing Standard . . . of Four Feet Eight and One-Half Inches,” February 9; “First Locomotive Here in Form Seeming Fixed, Subject To Big Changes,” February 10; “Development in the United States Preceding the Conception of This City Which Made Its Growth Possible,” February 11; “People in This Area Were Quick To Abandon the Old-Fashioned Covered Wooden Bridge Which Looked Like an Elongated Barn,” February 12; “One Traveler, Who Was a Mathematician, Left an Account of the Operation of Chuck-a-Luck Which He Witnessed,” February 14; “Echo Here in Wichita of Early Day Struggle of Locomotive Vs. Horse,” February 15; “First Two Railroads To Make an Entrance Into Indian Territory,” February 16; “Wichitans Had a Choice in Pronouncing Name of Neighbor—Oklahoma,” February 17; “One Mining Excitement [San Juan in Colorado] Came at the Same Time With Start of Wichita,” February 18; “Picturesque Figure Presented by the Scout of the Prairie Country Who Pursued His Profession Before the Railroads Arrived,” February 19; “Part Played Around Wichita by the